

APPENDIX C

(CLEAN VERSION OF ALL PENDING CLAIMS)

(Serial No. 10/090,179)

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A media network station, comprising:
a media transceiver configured for sending and receiving media signals over a media bus;
a data transceiver for sending and receiving control signals over a control bus; and
a processor in communication with said media transceiver and said data transceiver for
arbitrating transmission and reception of said media signals based on said control signals
and preventing media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus.
2. The media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a switchable
media bus termination network between said media transceiver and said media bus for balancing
transmissions on said media bus.
3. The media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a switchable
control bus termination network between said data transceiver and said control bus for balancing
transmissions over said control bus.
4. The media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a media
output connection in communication with said media transceiver for interconnecting received
media signals with an external media device.
5. (Amended) The media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a
media input connection in communication with said media transceiver for interconnecting an
external media device with said media transceiver for media signal transmission over said media
bus.

6. The media network station according to claim 1, further comprising a memory device in communication with said processor for storing computer instructions executable by said processor, said computer instructions implementing a method of switching arbitration to prevent said media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus.

7. (Amended) A digital media network system, comprising:
a media bus;
a control bus; and
a plurality of digital media network stations connected to said media bus and said control bus,
each digital media network station comprising:
a media transceiver configured for sending and receiving media signals over a media bus;
a data transceiver for sending and receiving control signals over a control bus; and
a processor in communication with said media transceiver and said data transceiver for
arbitrating transmission and reception of said media signals based on said control
signals and preventing media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus.

8. (Amended) The digital media network system of claim 7, wherein each of said plurality of digital media network stations further comprises a memory device in communication with said processor for storing computer instructions executable by said processor, said computer instructions implementing a method of switching arbitration preventing said media signal collisions from occurring on said media bus.

9. (Amended) The digital media network system of claim 7, wherein said media bus comprises a signal transmission technology selected from the group consisting of electrical, infrared, ultrasonic, radio frequency and fiber optic technologies.

10. (Amended) The digital media network system of claim 7, wherein said media bus comprises a plurality of media buses.

11. (Amended) A method of switching arbitration in a digital media network system, said method comprising:
providing a digital media network system having a plurality of digital media network stations in communication with each other over a digital media network bus, said digital media network bus comprising:
a digital media bus; and
a digital control bus;
one of said plurality of digital media network stations creating a control packet;
said one digital media network station sending said control packet on said digital control bus to all other digital media network stations;
said all other digital media network stations parsing said control packet; and
if said control packet comprises a system-wide broadcast command and there is no transmission on said digital media bus, executing said system-wide broadcast command.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, further comprising, if said control packet comprises a media network station-specific command and there is no transmission on said digital media bus, executing a handshake and said media network station-specific command or else timing out.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein said executing a handshake further comprises validating a response to ensure correct processing of said media network station-specific command.

14. (Amended) A method of switching arbitration in a digital media network system, said method comprising:
providing a digital media network system including at least three digital media network stations interconnected by a digital media bus and a digital control bus;
one of said at least three digital media network stations monitoring said digital control bus; and
said one of said at least three digital media network stations transmitting media signals to all others of said at least three digital media network stations if said digital media bus is not being used.